

individual for access authorization and/or employment clearance, the Director, Division of Security, through the Director, Office of Administration, shall forward to the Executive Director for Operations or a Deputy Executive Director, his or her recommendation as to whether the individual's access authorization and/or employment clearance should be suspended pending the final determination resulting from the operation of the procedures provided in this part. In making this recommendation the Director, Division of Security, shall consider such factors as the seriousness of the derogatory information developed, the degree of access of the individual to classified information, and the individual's opportunity by reason of his or her position to commit acts adversely affecting the national security. An individual's access authorization and/or employment clearance may not be suspended except by the direction of the Executive Director for Operations or a Deputy Executive Director.

[55 FR 4, Jan. 2, 1990]

§ 10.22 Notice to individual.

A notification letter, prepared by the Division of Security, approved by the Office of General Counsel, and signed by the Director, Office of Administration, shall be presented to each individual whose eligibility for access authorization and/or employment clearance is in question. Where practicable, such letter shall be presented to the individual in person. The letter will be accompanied by a copy of this part and shall state:

(a) That reliable information in the possession of the NRC has created a substantial doubt concerning the individual's eligibility for access authorization and/or employment clearance;

(b) The information that creates a substantial doubt regarding the individual's eligibility for access authorization and/or employment clearance, which shall be as comprehensive and detailed as the national security permits;

(c) That unless the individual files with the Director, Office of Administration, a written request for a hearing within 20 days of the individual's receipt of the notification letter, the Di-

rector, Division of Security, through the Director, Office of Administration, will submit a recommendation as to the final action to the Executive Director for Operations on the basis of the information in the possession of the NRC;

(d) That if the individual files a written request for a hearing with the Director, Office of Administration, the individual must file with that request a written answer under oath or affirmation which admits or denies specifically each allegation and each supporting fact contained in the notification letter. A general denial is not sufficient to controvert a specific allegation. If the individual is without knowledge, he or she shall so state and that statement shall operate as a denial. The answer shall also state any additional facts and information that the individual desires to have considered in explanation or mitigation of allegations in the notification letter. Failure to specifically deny or explain or deny knowledge of any allegation or supporting fact shall be deemed an admission that the allegation or fact is true;

(e) That if the individual does not want to exercise his or her right to a hearing, but does want to submit an answer to the allegations in the notification letter, the individual may do so by filing with the Director, Office of Administration, within 20 days of his receipt of the notification letter, a written answer in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section;

(f) That the procedures in § 10.24 *et seq.* shall apply to any hearing and review.

[47 FR 38676, Sept. 2, 1982, as amended at 51 FR 35999, Oct. 8, 1986; 52 FR 31609, Aug. 21, 1987; 54 FR 53316, Dec. 28, 1989]

§ 10.23 Failure of individual to request a hearing.

(a) In the event the individual fails to file a written request for a hearing pursuant to § 10.22 within 20 days of his receipt of the notification letter, a recommendation as to the final action to be taken shall be made by the Director, Division of Security, through the Director, Office of Administration, to the Executive Director for Operations on